A substantial amount of several hundred crore has been collected in the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund as voluntary contribution in response to the appeal made by the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister has sanctioned ex-gratia of Rs. 1 lakh each to the next of the kin of those killed in the Tsunami and an amount of Rs. 37.95 crore has so far been released as ex-gratia.

(c) It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to provide relief to the affected people and the Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing financial and logistic support. No fixed number of villages adopted by NGO's has become available to the Union Government through the State Governments.

529 children have become orphans in the Tsunami. The State Government/UT Administration and the community have decided to take care of these children themselves and most likely to adoption outside will take place.

(d) The Government of India, considering the fact that most of the people affected by the Tsunami disaster belong to weaker sections of the society and the fishermen community in particular were worst hit, approved a special package of Rs. 3644.05 crore named as "Rajiv Gandhi Rehabilitation Package for Tsunami affected areas" to provide assistance for immediate relief and response, revival of fishery and agriculture sectors, immediate construction of temporary (intermediate) shelters and repair/ restoration of infrastructure. The package for Tamil Nadu is Rs. 2347.19 crore, Andhra Pradesh — Rs. 70.00 crore, Kerala — Rs. 249.36 crore, Pondicherry — Rs. 155.62 crore, Andaman & Nicobar Islands — Rs. 821.88 crore.

Diversion of funds allotted for Tsunami Relief

†*212. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI:
SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds released for relief works for the Tsumani affected States, State-wise and amount-wise;

(b) the details of agencies through which relief and rehabilitation works undertaken, State-wise;

†Questions No. 204, 211 and 212 were taken together.

(c) whether Government noticed the diversion of Tsunami relief fund by the State Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The Government of India, considering the fact that most of the people affected by the Tsunami disaster belong to weaker sections of the society and the fishermen community in particular were wo ., approved a special package of Rs. 3644.05 crore named as "Rajiv Gandhi Rehabilitation Package for Tsunami affected areas" to provide assistance for immediate relief and response, revival of fishery and agriculture sectors, immediate construction of temporary (intermediate) shelters and repair/ restoration of infrastructure. The package for Tamil Nadu is Rs. 2347.19 crore, Andhra Pradesh — Rs. 70.00 crore, Kerala — Rs. 249.36 crore, Pondicherry — Rs. 155.62 crore, Andaman and Nicobar Islands — Rs. 821.88 crore.

(b) The relief and rehabilitation work has been undertaken by the respective States/UTs with logistic support from various Ministries/ Departments/Organisations of the Government of India.

(c) and (d) No such reports have been brought to the notice of the Government of India.

SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Sir, Questions Nos. 204, 211 and 212 are same. They can be clubbed.

SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Hon. Chairman, Sir, I am not satisfied with the reply of part (a) of my question. My specific question is that money is not reaching the affected people and money has been cornered by middlemen. What steps the Government has taken on this matter.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: This is about the funds which are coming from abroad and the funds are allowed to be collected by trusts, associations and organisations which are registered. These funds are received by them and they are expected to keep the Home Ministry informed about the amount of money that they have received. The final information about that has to be given by them to the Home Ministry by July of this year. And, then, they shall have to inform us to how they are using the funds and after

we get that information, it would be possible for us to fund out whether the funds are properly used or not. If there are any mistakes committed or anything has happened which should not have happened, the Government — the State Government as well as the Union Government — will be at liberty to see that the funds are properly used. And, if even after that, even after the directions are given, they are not properly used, proper action can be taken.

SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: As a result of unprecedented high tides lashing Trivandrum coast, repeated earthquakes in the Andamans, even while people were yet to recover from the trauma of Tsunami, psychiatric and psychological complications are on the rise amongst the people in the affected areas. Effective counselling is not being given to the traumatised public, and the newspapers are full of incidents involving untrained people taking sensitive counselling like the treatment programme under the sponsorship of District Mental Health Programme, including the ECT shock therapy and administering highly-dependant psycho-therapic drugs, which are known to have dangerous side-effects.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please put the question.

SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: These untrained personnel have dubious intention to implement such programmes across the country without licence to treat. Is it not the duty of the Government to take action against such unscrupulous people?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, this is a very relevant qustion. As a matter of fact, the Government in Andaman and Nicobar have taken this issue on their hands. The army, doctors and experts are also helping and there are some doctors who have gone there from the main land and they are qualified doctors. They have helped the people. But if there are any people, who are not qualified people and if they are dabbling in these kinds of things, certainly, we will take precaution to see that they do not dupe the people; they do not do the things which will harm the people. We had already taken note of it. If there is any information in this regard, we will take action against them also in a proper manner.

SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: In reply to my question, the hon. Minister has said that no external assistance was sought for immediate relief and response. He has stated that the Government is considering such assistance from multi-lateral agencies like the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the European Union and the agencies for long-term

reconstruction purposes. Sir, we have witnessed a number of these natural calamities in Orissa, Gujarat and in other parts of the country. The U.N. agencies, like the WHO and the Red Cross, were the first to reach the spots, whether in the case of Orissa or Gujarat or even in Tsunami-affected areas. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the permission for these organisations, the U.N. organisations, is mandatory from the Home Minister for them to take part in the relief work. Now, I come to the second part of my question. There were a lot of applications which had come to the Charitable Commissioner to raise funds for this relief work from so many organisations. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how many organisations had applied for this purpose and how many have been granted permission and what is the amount collected, and whether the amount has reached the rightful persons.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: It is a very omnibus question. Sir, I have already said that the Government of India has said that it is in a position to help the people who have been affected by Tsunami. But, at the same time, we have said that if the assistance is coming from outside through multi-lateral organisations like the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank and the United Nations for rehabilitation, the assistance given then can be considered. Now, as far as the organisations receiving the funds and using these funds are concerned, it is not necessary for any organisation to come through the Government and ask for the permission if they are collecting the funds from the people in the country. If the funds are coming from outside, we have given a blanket permission that for three months, they can receive the assistance from outside through the banks and they have to open special accounts in the banks in their names and they shall have to keep the Home Ministry informed about that. They shall have to inform the Home Ministry as to the utilisation of the funds, and, the Home Ministry will look into it whether the funds are properly utilised or not and take proper action.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, from the statement of the hon. Minister and from the press statements given by various Ministers, it seems that the resource is not at all a problem to assist the Tsunami victims. In the Budget document, they have arrived at a rough cost of around Rs. 13,000 crores. Out of this, they have so far given Rs. 3,000 and odd crores only.

Sir, as the Chairman as well as the entire House knows, among the States, the worst hit by Tsunami is the State of Tamil Nadu. Out of 10,000

people who have lost lives, 8000 and odd have been from Tamil Nadu only. As such, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has asked for Rs. 4,800 crores for rehabilitation and relief measures etc. So far they have given only marginal money. Mr. Chairman, Sir, you will be very keen to know as to what exactly is my question.

Now I come to the question. My question is whether the Government is willing to go all out to give the entire assistance needed by all the States. According to you, you have assessed 13,000 and odd crores. If so, will the Rs. 13,000 and odd crores be given to the various States? That is my question, Sir.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, the assistance is given in phases. Initially, it was given to provide relief. Now, we are giving assistance to the States to provide temporary shelter, and, the ultimate phase would be to provide permanent shelter and to give them the boats, catamarans, nets and other things. As far as the amount of money required is concerned, we have made some assessment but that assessment is not the final assessment. The Planning Commission has appointed a committee, which is looking into the matters relating to many other things like repair of jetties, the roads, the harbours and things like that. That will require still bigger amount of money. We would see that the money, which is really required, is made available to them.

But this responsibility is being borne by the Union Government as well as the State Governments. They have boldly and very confidently come forth stating that they will put in their own strength. The people at large are also helping.

So, I can assure that the money is not going to be a problem. If we have said that Rs. 10,000 crores are required, it is not necessary that Rs. 10,000 crores should be handed over to the State Governments or to the Administration in Andaman and Nicobar at the first instance. As and when the money is required, it will be given, and, I would again say that the money is not going to be a problem.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: Sir, the Government deserves our congratulations on the work done on rescue, relief and rehabilitation. According to the reports, Japan has expressed its willingness to work with India in establishing a Tsunami Early Warning Mechanism.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has discussed this issue with Japan or any other country, and if so, what is the progress in this regard.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, the Government has decided to have the Early Warning System for Tsunami on its own. But, at the same time, any country that is in a position to help India will be welcomed to do so. As far as the main job is concerned, the responsibility is given to the Department of Ocean Development along with the Ministry of Science and Technology and they are working on it. We would be happy to receive any assistance, technical assistance or any advice or any other help, which can be given by them and which can be received by us from any country.

SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Sir, regarding this issue, I would like to know whether the Government has already conducted a proper damage-and-needs assessment, evaluation, on the actuarial basis. If so, what is the total amount arrived at? In such a case, I would like to know the separate, segregated understanding on the damage on assets as well as damage on the productivity lost, sector-wise and State-wise. Sir, I pointedly want to know when the next phase of relief amount is going to be extended to the States, especially to the State of Kerala.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, I will give the details State-wise, sector-wise, initial stages and all these things of this question to the hon. Member. I will give it to him in writing. As far as the assistance that can be given to the States is concerned, there is no problem. We will give the assistance whenever it is required. There is no difficulty in that. Now, the State Governments are also taking stock of the situation and preparing plans. The Union Government is also taking stock of the situation and preparing plan. The funds can be given and will be given as and when required.

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Sir, the hon. Minister as well as the Government is repeatedly saying that money is not a problem for the relief and rehabilitation process. But it is quite unfortunate to say that the permanent rehabilitation of the affected people is still getting delayed. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it has come to his notice that the permanent rehabilitation of the people is being delayed. If that is the case, what is the reason?

The other part of my supplementary is this. Print media as well as electronic media and other organisations are collecting lakhs and lakhs of rupees. I would like to know as to where this money is going, and whether the Government of India is having any control or regulation over these funds. There are so may relief funds like the Prime Minister's Relief Fund and Chief Ministers' Relief Funds. I would like to know whether there is any exclusive Tsunami Relief Fund, and whether the amount, which is

collected through the Prime Minister's Relief Fund, is exclusively used for the Tsunami rehabilitation process, or it is being used for other purposes also. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, as far as the permanent construction is concerned we want to do it in a very, very scientific manner. This is a calamity, but we want to use this as an opportunity to build modern villages, modern cities, modern jetties, modern harbours, modern schools and modern hospitals. For that, we have asked the experts to look into it very carefully and give us the plans. Then we would like to provide the houses, which can withstand calamities of earthquakes, of Tsunamis, of cyclones and things like that. The experts are on the job; they are preparing plans in order to see that these things are done in a proper manner and these things last for years togehter, may be for 50 or 100 years. Now, we are going in a very scientific and a proper manner. In order to see that in the interim period there is no difficulty, we are constructing dwelling units also maybe for one or two years. Everything is tried to be done in a scientific manner.

Now, as far as the other part of the question relating to funds is concerned, the Prime Minister's Relief Fund is there. It will be used for the purposes which are required to helping the people in this. And if some more money is there, it can be used for such purposes in future also.

As far as the point of other people collecting funds is concerned, I have already explained it that the Home Ministry has to be kept informed about the amount of money they are receiving. We want to have the information as to how they are going to use it. And if it is not properly used, they can be advised properly and corrective actions can be taken.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, the day before yesterday, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the United Nations released a report which estimated the cost of rehabilitation and reconstruction in the four South-Indian States at 1.2 billion dollars or roughly Rs. 5,400 crores. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he accepts these estimates made by the international institutions. And if he does accept it, what are the next steps required in order to get assistance from these international institutions?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, we do not dispute the figures that they have given. But we would like to rely upon our own assessment as such.

Secondly, we have already said that if the funds are likely to come from international organisations for rehabilitation work, we will certainly look into it. And even for temporary assistance and relief, the countries, the individuals and the organisations who express their willingness to contribute and help, we are grateful to them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question regarding Tsunami has been covered. Now, Question No. 205, Shrimati Savita Sharda.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, something very important is missing. Sir, you just give me half a minute. Sir, it is about the missing persons. It's a very large number. Sir, we have 5,823. How long will they be listed as missing persons and what kind of relief and support will be given to those families? It is almost three months. That is what we want to know.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, this is a very grey area and we would like to be very careful. If there are persons who are missing or not likely to come, we will certainly give all the help which can be given. But we would also be careful in accepting the numbers given by others.

विकलांग सैनिकों को नि:शुल्क चिकित्सा

*205. **श्रीमती सविता शारदा:** क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या युद्ध में विकलांग हुए सैनिकों को सैन्य अस्पतालों में मिल रही नि:शुल्क चिकित्सा देना बंद कर दिया गया है जिसके परिणामस्वरूप ऐसे हजारों सैनिकों को समस्याओं का सामना करना पड़ रहा है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) क्या सरकार ऐसे सैनिकों को दी जाने वाली नि:शुल्क चिकित्सा को जारी करने पर पुन: विचार करेगी जो युद्ध में विकलांग हो गये हैं?

रक्षा मंत्री (श्री प्रणब मुखर्जी): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) और (ग) उपर्युक्त (क) को देखते हुए, प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Free medical treatment to handicapped armymen

†*205. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether free treatment being provided in army hospitals to the armymen who have been rendered handicapped in the war, has been

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.